

Volunteer Spotlight



Bryce Thayer, MacKenzie Chase, Annie Bachmayer, Emily Melhourn



Joel Kane

Azulita Project:

The Azulita Project's mission is to reduce single-use plastics usage in inland and coastal communities through education, programs, advocacy, and plastic recapture efforts.

Bryce Thayer (Water Services Communications Aide). Bryce Thayer has volunteered over 225 hours this year to the Azulita Project, while also working and attending school. Bryce's volunteer work for the Azulita Project included regular outreach at community events, preparing bags for Tote-Ally Reusable Bags, donating leaves for the Fall Leaves program, coordinating screenings of "Evidence of Us" and other "as needed" volunteer tasks. Bryce was integral in the design of many Azulita Project program flyers with very little instruction other than, "Make it look pretty." Bryce continues this work as the new Communications Aide for the City of Flagstaff.

MacKenzie Chase (Beautification, Arts & Sciences VISTA Member). MacKenzie Chase has volunteered over 100 hours this year to the Azulita Project. MacKenzie's volunteer work for the Azulita Project included regular outreach at community events, preparing bags for Tote-Ally Reusable Bags and other "as needed" volunteer tasks. MacKenzie contributed keen writing skills for many social media posts and materials for Straw Free Flagstaff, with very little instruction other than, "you know what you're doing, right?" MacKenzie continues to contribute these talents to the Beautification, Arts & Sciences department as a VISTA service volunteer.

Annie Bachmayer (Water Conservation Aide). Annie Bachmayer has volunteered over 225 hours this year to the Azulita Project, while also working and attending school. Annie's volunteer work for the Azulita Project included regular outreach at community events, organizing Clean-Up Days, preparing bags for Tote-Ally Reusable Bags, and many other "as needed" volunteer tasks. Annie's attention to detail and organizational skills were a natural fit to be the main contact person for the Fall Leaves program and handling outreach with schools for the Political Signs project. Annie kept many balls from dropping for this small non-profit. Annie continues this work as the new Water Conservation Aide for the City of Flagstaff.

Joel Kane (Visitor Services Specialist). Joel Kane has volunteered this year with the Azulita Project collecting and laundering bags for their Tote-Ally Reusable Bag Program, donating leaves for the Fall Leaves Program, and being an interviewee for "Evidence of Us" short film. Joel Kane has also volunteered with the City of Flagstaff Water Services by outfitting rain barrels to donate to the public for the Rainwater Harvesting Program. Joel can also be seen picking up litter in an unofficial capacity whenever he is outdoors (which is often).

Nominated by Emily Melhourn

Link: www.azulitaproject.org





Volunteer Spotlight

Sunshine Rescue Mission Inc and Hope Cottage:

Hi Champions,

I'd like to recognize **Pam Packard** from the library. She does a coat drive every year for Sunshine Rescue Mission and Hope Cottage. This year she expanded it to include a donation drive as well for items SRM identified as a need.

Nominated by Amelia Mason

Links: Ending Homelessness (srm-hc.org) & Hope Cottage (srm-hc.org)



Lefty Loosey Bike Co-op

I have been volunteering since April 2021 and they were able to donate 10 kids bikes to the Family Food Center and donate more bikes to community members in need!

~Felicia Felder

Links: <https://www.facebook.com/leftylooseybikes/>

<https://leftylooseybikes.wixsite.com/website>





Volunteer Spotlight

Adopt-A-Highway

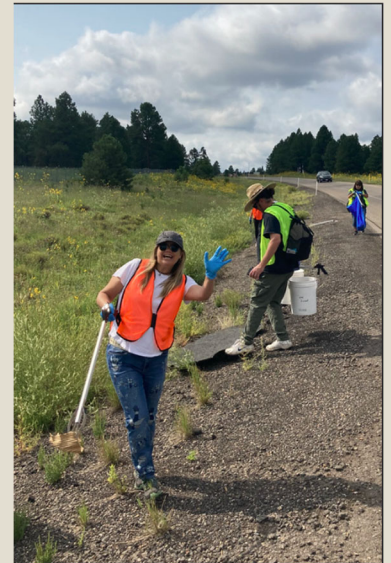
The Discover Flagstaff team joined the Arizona Department of Transportation in adopting a portion of I-17 for the Adopt-A-Highway program. The adopted mile stretch sits under the overpass between the Flagstaff Airport and Fort Tuthill County Fairgrounds, a gateway to Flagstaff and often times the visitors first impression.

Links: [Adopt a Highway](#) | [ADOT \(azdot.gov\)](#)

Nominated by Mike Russell

Discover Flagstaff Volunteers:

- Meg Roederer
- Jessica Young
- Candace Schipper
- Ralph Schmid
- Carrie Nelson
- Sabrina Beard
- Mike Russell
- Jessica Lawrence
- Cherri Lamont



More photos here!: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/visitflagstaff/albums/72157719729151924>





Volunteer Spotlight

The Arboretum and Sustainability Department:

At the Arboretum my volunteer job this summer was to fill the hummingbird feeders. A group of volunteers took turns so that these feeders stayed full by visiting twice a week. One of the times that I volunteered I thought a Jay had flown into the brim of my hat but when I got back home I found that instead a bird had went to the bathroom on the brim of my hat! The hummers would frequently be buzzing around my head as I filled the feeders. During the last of the season there were more bees than hummingbirds but I never felt that the bees were aggressive. I wish I had pictures of the numerous bees that were at the feeders, they blanketed the little plastic flowers on the feeders, drinking up the nectar and even, unfortunately, crawling inside and drowning.

For the sustainability department I volunteered at the Fixit clinic in the winter and the spring. It is always quite a treat to fix items for the community that they might otherwise throw away. Sometimes the items brought in are too complex to fix during the time of the fixit clinic, at the clinic in the winter I had numerous people want jacket zippers removed and replaced. The problem with this is that removing a jacket zipper takes a long time because of the fine stitching that is keeping the zipper in place. We always ask people to assist if they can so that they learn something about fixing and this was a time when I gave people seam ripper tools and asked them to remove the zippers. None of the people finished the task in time for me to put the new zipper in. In the spring the tasks were all fairly easy; patching holes, hemming, replacing elastic and putting buttons on.

~Beth Verstrate

Links: [The Arboretum](#) & [Fixit Clinic](#)

